Reducing retirement age in the Railways

1401. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to reduce the retirement age to 58 years in Railways, on the lines of Civil Aviation;

(b) if so, by when the proposal is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the measures being taken to create employment opportunities in the Ministry of Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) There is no such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The policy on retirement is controlled by the nodal Ministry i.e. the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. The Ministry of Railways fall in line and follow all directives/guidelines issued by that Ministry on the subject. As regards creation of employment opportunities on the railways, it is submitted that any new posts required for operation/maintenance of new assets or new services are created with matching surrender. Such newly created posts as well as the vacancies occuring due to normal wastage like death, retirement, etc. are filled up by direct recruitment from the open market or by promotion.

Surveys for new rail lines

† 1402. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the surveys undertaken to lay new rail lines during the last three years;

(b) the estimated cost of laying rail line from Dhaulpur to Gangapur city, according to the survey; and

(c) by when Government are likely to accord sanction for the work of laying the said rail line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.